

Freedom of religion is the first part of the first amendment. The United States was founded for religious freedom. The Pilgrims came here in 1607 for that purpose, as did my father Harry Specter, who literally walked across Europe with barely a ruble in his pocket in 1911 seeking a new life for himself and a family which he hoped to have, and religious freedom, because the Cossacks rode up and down the streets of Batchkurina, a small village in Ukraine, in Russia, where my father's brother, Mordechai Spectorski, had fought with the Cossacks, and they were looking for Mordechai Spectorski, who had fled the city. And, the Cossacks continued to look for members of the Specter family. My father immigrated to the United States, as did my mother Lillie Shanin, leaving a small town on the Russian-Polish border at the age of 5, coming to the United States in 1905.

The legislation which has passed the House of Representatives has some sanctions in it. It provides that there be no weapons of torture sold, and provides limitations as to what U.S. taxpayer money can be given for, other than humanitarian purposes. And, it seems to me that if the legislation is to have any effect, there have to be sanctions, there have to be weapons in the bill—teeth—in order to promote compliance.

I visited this past January in Saudi Arabia and talked to Saudi officials about concerns which I have and which others have had where Christians cannot display a Christmas tree in a window if it is visible from the outside, where Jewish soldiers are reluctant to wear their dog tags identifying themselves as being Jewish, a situation which is intolerable, where we have some 5,000 young men and women who are in Saudi Arabia to protect the Saudis.

The situation in Egypt is very serious where there are Evangelical Christians who are being persecuted, where they land in jail if there is a conversion from Islam to Christianity. I was unable to visit the Sudan because of difficulties there, but visiting in nearby Eritrea, I heard stories about the persecution of Christians in Sudan.

It is my hope that this legislation will be considered by the Senate in short order so that a firm stand will be taken to deal with the very serious issue of religious persecution worldwide.

Again, I compliment the House and chief sponsor, FRANK WOLF, and look forward to enactment of this legislation in the Senate. The bill passed by a vote of 375-41, which is well beyond the number necessary to be veto proof. The administration has been opposed to having sanctions in legislation, sanctions such as some of the ones proposed in the bill which I have offered and is pending in the U.S. Senate.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that James Bynum, a Capitol Hill fellow, and Kurt Volker, a State Department fellow serving on Senator MCCAIN's staff, be granted privileges of the floor during the debate and any votes concerning S. 2057, the fiscal year 1999 National Defense Authorization bill, as well as any related amendments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, what is the current order?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The current order is the Brownback amendment, No. 2407, to the Feinstein amendment, No. 2405.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that be set aside and that I be allowed to send an amendment to the desk.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COATS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— S. 1415

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to Calendar No. 370, which is S. 1415, the tobacco bill, just reported from the Finance Committee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. ASHCROFT. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. LOTT. I now move that the Senate stand in adjournment for 1 minute.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to, and at 5:07 p.m., on Thursday, May 14, 1998, the Senate adjourned until 5:08 p.m. the same day.

#### AFTER ADJOURNMENT

The Senate met at 5:08 p.m., pursuant to adjournment, and was called to order by the Hon. DAN COATS, a Senator from the State of Indiana.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. LOTT. I now ask that the routine requests through the morning hour be granted.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### UNIVERSAL TOBACCO SETTLEMENT ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED

##### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to Calendar No. 370, S. 1415, and send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

##### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to calendar No. 370, S. 1415, regarding tobacco reform:

Trent Lott, John McCain, Ben Nighthorse Campbell, James Inhofe, Christopher Bond, Gordon Smith, Robert Bennett, Harry Reid, Ted Stevens, Richard Shelby, Mike DeWine, Susan Collins, Slade Gorton, Jay Rockefeller, John Kerry, Christopher Dodd.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I want to announce, for the information of all Senators, that the vote will occur on this cloture motion Monday, May 18, at a time to be determined by the majority leader after consultation with the Democratic leader, and the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

It is anticipated this vote will occur at 5:30 Monday afternoon. We have, in the past, over the past month, tried to make Senators aware of Mondays and Fridays, that we would not be having votes. This Friday we will not be having any votes. We notified the Members of that, I think at least 3 weeks ago. But we have been saying all along on Monday, the 18th, they should expect a vote. But we will try to have it late in the afternoon, so we could conduct some business during the morning and afternoon, so Senators will have time to get back here from their respective States. We do expect that vote probably around 5:30, but we want to check with all the Senators to see if that is the best possible time. We may need to move it a little bit one way or the other.